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SECTORAL POLICY QUESTIONS

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled:

"Sectoral policy questions:

"(a) Industrial development cooperation;

"(b) Business and development;

"(c) Food and sustainable agricultural development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 20th, 21st, 25th, 27th, 31st, 50th and 51st meetings, on 28 and 31 October, 3 and 6 November and 9 December 1997. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.20, 21, 25, 27, 31, 50 and 51). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.2/52/SR.3-9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 96. Sectoral policy questions

(a) Letter dated 7 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the results of the 97th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held at Seoul from 10 to 15 April 1997 (A/52/139);

(b) Letter dated 12 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the communiqué and the Montego Bay Declaration issued at the conclusion of the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM, held at Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 29 June to 4 July 1997 (A/52/284);

(c) Letter dated 28 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Asunción Declaration, the Declaration on the Strengthening of the United Nations and the Reform of the Security Council, the Declaration on the Defence of Democracy and the Declaration on Unilateral Measures of the Eleventh Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group, held at Asunción on 23 and 24 August 1997 (A/52/347);

(d) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, held in New York on 25 September 1997 (A/52/447-S/1997/775);

(e) Letter dated 13 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting, held in New York on 26 September 1997 (A/52/460);

Item 96 (a). Industrial development cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002) (A/52/480);

Item 96 (b). Business and development

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development (A/52/428);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum, held at Rarotonga, from 17 to 19 September 1997 (A/52/413);

Item 96 (c). Food and sustainable agricultural development

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996 (A/52/132-E/1997/57);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum, held at Rarotonga from 17 to 19 September 1997 (A/52/413);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits (E/1997/73).

4. At the 20th meeting, on 28 October, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Africa Bureau of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (under sub-item (a)) and the Director of the Division for Governance, Public Administration and Finance of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (b)) (see A/C.2/52/SR.20).

5. At the 25th meeting, on 31 October, the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made an introductory statement under sub-item (c) (see A/C.2/52/SR.25).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.13, L.13/Rev.1 and L.59

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 November, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution entitled "Business and development" (A/C.2/52/L.13). Subsequently, Argentina, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Mozambique, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 47/171 of 22 December 1992 entitled 'Privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development', 48/180 of 21 December 1993 entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development', 50/106 of 20 December 1995 entitled 'Business and development', and 51/191 of 16 December 1996 entitled 'United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions',

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development';[1]

"2. Recognizes that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are essential to sustainable development;

"3. Also recognizes that effective efforts at all levels to combat and avoid corruption and bribery in all countries are elements essential to an improved international business environment, that such efforts enhance fairness and competitiveness in international commercial transactions and form a critical part of promoting transparent and accountable governance, economic and social development and environmental protection in all countries, and that those efforts are especially pressing in the increasingly competitive globalized international economy;

"4. Calls upon Member States to implement the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions;[2]

"5. Looks forward to the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of General Assembly resolution 51/191 to be submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-third session;

"6. Stresses the central role of the private sector in sustainable development through its support for the interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development - economic development, social development and environmental protection;

"7. Notes that private net resource flows to developing countries now exceed official development finance, having reached more than 250 billion dollars in 1996, including 100 billion dollars in foreign direct investment;

"8. Recognizes, in this connection, the growing role of the private sector in areas related to infrastructure, health care, education and the environment, and that the measures needed to make private participation feasible - including economic stabilization, demonopolization and introduction of sound tariff policies - have the potential to strengthen incentives for better public sector performance as well;

"9. Also recognizes that in many countries, particularly developing countries and in economies in transition, the informal sector accounts for

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[1] A/52/428.

[2] Resolution 51/191, annex.

more than half of all economic activity and is a particularly important source of income for women;

"10. Stresses the importance of micro-credit to people living in poverty, allowing them to undertake the establishment of micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to the achieving of empowerment, particularly of women, and calls for the strengthening of institutions supportive of micro-credit;

"11. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to involve the private sector in its deliberations and work programme and welcomes the Partners for Development initiative of the Secretary-General of the Conference, and the first meeting of the initiative to be held in Lyon, France, in November 1998;

"12. Calls upon the Secretary-General and the operational development agencies of the United Nations system to focus analytical work, in implementing the present resolution as well as General Assembly resolutions 48/180 and 50/106, on the role of the private sector including the informal sector in sustainable development;

"13. Calls upon the United Nations funds and programmes to incorporate private sector support for sustainable development in programmes, country cooperation frameworks and development assistance frameworks while ensuring a gender perspective within these programmes;

"14. Decides to place this issue in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the General Assembly at that session."

7. At the 51st meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Business and development" (A/C.2/52/L.59), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.13, which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 47/171 of 22 December 1992 entitled 'Privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development', 48/180 of 21 December 1993 entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development', 50/106 of 20 December 1995 entitled 'Business and development', and the Agenda for Development,

"Welcoming that many countries continue to attach major importance to the privatization of enterprises, demonopolization and administrative deregulation in the context of their economic restructuring policies, as a means to increase efficiency, economic growth and sustainable development,

"Recognizing the importance of the market and the private sector for the efficient functioning of economies in various stages of development,

"Recognizing the sovereign right of each State to decide on the development of its private and public sectors, taking into account the comparative advantages of each sector, bearing in mind the economic, social and cultural diversity in the world,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development';[1]

"2. Underlines the positive role of the private sector in supporting economic growth and development as well as in the mobilization of resources;

"3. Emphasizes the role of the private sector in each country including international investors, to contribute positively to the implementation of national macroeconomic policies, and macroeconomic stabilization programmes;

"4. Recognizes that business and industry, including transnational corporations, play a crucial role in the social and economic development of a country. A stable policy regime enables and encourages business and industry to operate responsibly and efficiently and to implement longer-term policies. Increasing prosperity, a major goal of the development process, is contributed primarily by the activities of business and industry;

"5. Convinced that a stable and transparent environment for commercial transactions in all countries is essential for the mobilization of investment, finance, technology, skills and other important resources across national borders, in order to promote growth and development, and recognizes in this context, that effective efforts at all levels to combat corruption and bribery are essential elements of an improved international business environment;

"6. Recognizes the important role of Governments in creating, through transparent and participatory processes, an enabling environment supportive of entrepreneurship and facilitative of privatization, in particular in establishing the judicial, executive and legislative frameworks necessary for a market-based exchange of goods and services and for good management;

"7. Emphasizes the importance of a supportive international economic environment, including investment and trade, for the promotion of entrepreneurship and privatization;

"8. Recognizes the need to increase private sector involvement in the provisions of infrastructure services, inter alia, through joint ventures between public and private entities, particularly in countries with economies in transition, while protecting essential services and safeguarding the environment;

"9. Recognizes that in many countries the informal sector accounts for a significant part of all economic activity and is a particularly

important source of income for women and that the progressive integration of the informal sector should be encouraged;

"10. Stresses the importance of micro-credit to people living in poverty, allowing them to undertake the establishment of micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to the achieving of empowerment, particularly of women, and calls for the strengthening of institutions supportive of micro-financing, in particular, micro-credit;

"11. Values the promotion of entrepreneurship, including through the informal sector and micro-enterprises, in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization, and the simplification of administrative procedures;

"12. Recognizes the important role of cooperatives in the development and promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises;

"13. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide a forum for intergovernmental discussions, with the participation of representatives from the private sector, concerning issues related to privatization, enterprise development, and international flows of investment and welcomes the efforts by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to build a lasting partnership for development with non-governmental actors, including through the 'Partners for Development' initiative to be held in Lyon, France in 1998;

"14. Invites the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the other relevant United Nations organs to further strengthen their activities, in particular for Africa and the least developed countries, in the promotion of entrepreneurship development especially for small and medium-sized enterprises and calls upon the international community to lend its support to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard;

"15. Stresses that the outsourcing of work from the transnational corporations to the small and medium-sized enterprises is supportive to the development of entrepreneurship and privatization in developing countries;

"16. Calls upon the United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to continue to strengthen support to the promotion of entrepreneurship and, in their work in implementing this resolution, to give due consideration to the role of the private sector in development, taking into account the priorities set by each country, while ensuring a gender perspective, and, in this connection, states that there is a need to assist in particular the Governments of developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition in strengthening their capacity to encourage wider participation of the private sector;

"17. Decides to place this issue in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation

with relevant United Nations bodies, to prepare a report which includes analytical work on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the General Assembly at that session."

8. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, proposed that the Committee take no action on the draft resolution.

9. The representative of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat made a statement in response to a question raised (see A/C.2/52/SR.51).

10. The representative of Luxembourg, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, then proposed a suspension of the meeting.

11. The Committee proceeded to vote on the motion for a suspension of the meeting, which was rejected by 87 votes to 50, with 1 abstention.

12. Statements in favour of the motion to take no action on the draft resolution were then made by the representatives of Costa Rica and Indonesia. Statements against the motion were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the Russian Federation.

13. The Committee then proceeded to vote on the motion to take no action on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.59, which was carried by 90 votes to 53.

14. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.13, with the exception of Mozambique, and joined by Turkey, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "Business and development" (A/C.2/52/L.13/Rev.1), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 47/171 of 22 December 1992 entitled 'Privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development', 48/180 of 21 December 1993 entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development', 50/106 of 20 December 1995 entitled 'Business and development', and 51/191 of 16 December 1996 entitled 'United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions',

"Welcoming the privatization process in many countries through, inter alia, demonopolization and administrative deregulation in the context of their economic restructuring policies, as a means to increase efficiency, economic growth and sustainable development, and stresses the importance of strengthening this process,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development';[1]

"2. Recognizes that effective efforts at all levels to combat and avoid corruption and bribery in all countries are elements essential to an improved international business environment, that such efforts enhance fairness and competitiveness in international commercial transactions and form a critical part of promoting transparent and accountable governance, economic and social development and environmental protection in all countries, and that those efforts are especially pressing in the increasingly competitive globalized international economy;

"3. Stresses the important role of the private sector in sustainable development in supporting the interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development - economic development, social development and environmental protection;

"4. Recognizes that business and industry, including transnational corporations, play a crucial role in the social and economic development of a country, that a stable policy regime enables and encourages business and industry to operate responsibly and efficiently and to implement longer-term policies and that increasing prosperity, a major goal of the development process, is contributed primarily by the activities of business and industry;

"5. Recognizes the important role of Governments in creating, through transparent and participatory processes, an enabling environment supportive of entrepreneurship and facilitative of privatization and, in particular, in establishing the judicial, executive and legislative frameworks necessary for the market-based exchange of goods and services and for good management;

"6. Reaffirms the importance of creating sound national macroeconomic policy in the promotion of entrepreneurship and privatization and stresses the need for a supportive international economic environment, including investment and trade, for the promotion of entrepreneurship and privatization in all countries;

"7. Recognizes that Governments, business and industry, including transnational corporations, should strengthen partnerships to implement the principles and criteria for sustainable development;

"8. Recognizes the growing role of the private sector in areas related to infrastructure, and that the measures needed to make private participation feasible - deregulating the economy, strengthening relevant legislation to provide legal protection, reducing administrative interference to promote free competition and providing institutional support to small and medium-sized enterprises - have the potential to strengthen incentives for better public sector performance as well;

"9. Encourages the private sector to play a role in areas related to social development and environmental protection;

"10. Recognizes that in many countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, the informal sector

accounts for a significant part of all economic activity and is a particularly important source of income for women, and that the progressive integration of the informal sector into the formal sector should be encouraged;

"11. Stresses the importance of micro-credit to people living in poverty, allowing them to undertake micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to achieving empowerment, particularly of women, and calls for the strengthening of institutions supportive of micro-financing, including micro-credit;

"12. Values the promotion of entrepreneurship, including through the informal sector and micro-enterprises, in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures;

"13. Recognizes the important role of cooperatives in the development and promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises;

"14. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to involve non-governmental actors in its activities in an advisory capacity and welcomes the Partners for Development Initiative of the Secretary-General and the meeting to be held at Lyon, France, in November 1998;

"15. Calls upon the Secretary-General and the operational development agencies of the United Nations system to focus analytical work, in implementing the present resolution as well as General Assembly resolutions 48/180 and 50/106, on the role of the private sector including the informal sector in sustainable development;

"16. Calls upon the United Nations funds and programmes to incorporate support for sustainable development from the private sector in programmes, country cooperation frameworks and development assistance frameworks, and to continue to strengthen their programme activities that are supportive of the promotion of entrepreneurship, while promoting an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in those programmes, country cooperation frameworks and development assistance frameworks;

"17. Decides to include this issue in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at that session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

15. Also at the 51st meeting, the representative of the United States of America withdrew draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.13/Rev.1 on behalf of the sponsors.

16. Statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States

Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) (see A/C.2/52/SR.51).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.16 and L.40

17. At the 31st meeting, on 6 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Industrial development cooperation" (A/C.2/52/L.16), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[3] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[4] and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[5]

"Taking note of the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting, held in New York on 26 September 1997,[6] the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, issued on 25 September 1997,[7] and the Declaration on Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare in June 1997, on the importance of industrial development for developing countries, especially those in Africa, and the essential role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard,

"Reaffirming its resolution 50/94 of 20 December 1995 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the resolution, and resolution 51/170 of 16 December 1996,

"Recognizing the key role of industrialization in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, as well as its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty, the integration of women in the development process and the creation of productive employment,

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[3] Resolution S-18/3, annex.

[4] Resolution 45/199, annex.

[5] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[6] A/52/460.

[7] A/52/447-S/1997/775, annex.

"Recognizing the increasing role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the role of the industrial sector in development process,

"Taking note of the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[*]

"2. Calls on all Member States to support the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, taking into account the results of the mid-term review of the Second Decade;

"3. Invites donor countries, United Nations funds and programmes, all relevant United Nations organizations and the private sector to participate in the 1998 meeting of donors to be organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme and the Organization of African Unity under the leadership of the African Development Bank and in cooperation with the World Bank;

"4. Appeals to the international community and the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, to support the programmes of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

"5. Urges African Member States to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization into their national plans and the establishment of institutional capacity for the formulation of mechanisms to follow up and monitor programmes and projects, including, where appropriate, the involvement of the private sector;

"6. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations organizations to work closely with Governments and the private sector in Africa at the national, regional and international levels to foster industrial production and development;

"7. Calls on the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa to increase their coordination with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations agencies and donors with a view to accelerating the implementation and goals of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

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[*] A/52/480.

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

18. At the 50th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Adel Abdellatif (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Industrial development cooperation: Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa" (A/C.2/52/L.40), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.16, and proposed that the brackets be deleted from around the words "sustained economic growth and sustainable development" in the fifth preambular paragraph.

19. Upon the request of the representative of the United States of America, the Committee proceeded to a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

20. Statements before the vote were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.40 by a recorded vote of 151 to 1 (see para. 25).[9] The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic,

[9] The delegation of Slovenia subsequently indicated that, had it been present at the time of the voting, it would have voted in favour.

Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

22. Statements after the vote were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), South Africa, the Russian Federation and Australia (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

23. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.40, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.16 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft decision

24. At its 51st meeting, on 9 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of documents before it under the item (see para. 26).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

25. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Industrial development cooperation: Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[10] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[11] and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[12]

Taking note of the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting, held in New York on

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[10] Resolution S-18/3, annex.

[11] Resolution 45/199, annex.

[12] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

26 September 1997,[13] the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, issued on 25 September 1997,[14] and the Declaration on Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare from 2 to 4 June 1997,[15] concerning the importance of industrial development for developing countries, especially those in Africa, and the essential role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard,

Reaffirming its resolution 50/94 of 20 December 1995 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the resolution, and its resolution 51/170 of 16 December 1996,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, as well as its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty, the integration of women in the development process and the creation of productive employment,

Recognizing the increasing role of the business community, including the private sector, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector,

Taking note of the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic and international initiatives for the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, including a favourable climate for foreign direct investment, private sector development, small and medium-sized enterprises and enhanced market access, and recognizing the need for African countries to use both human and financial resources more effectively in the process of industrialization,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[16]

2. Calls upon all Member States to support the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan

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[13] A/52/460, annex.

[14] A/52/447-S/1997/775, annex.

[15] See A/52/465, annex II.

[16] A/52/480.

of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, taking into account the results of the mid-term review of the Second Decade;

3. Invites donor countries, United Nations funds and programmes, all relevant United Nations organizations and the private sector to participate in a meeting of donors to be organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme and the Organization of African Unity under the leadership of the African Development Bank and in cooperation with the World Bank;

4. Appeals to the international community and the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, in accordance with their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to support the programmes of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

5. Urges African Member States to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization into their national plans and the establishment of institutional capacity for the formulation of mechanisms to follow up and monitor programmes and projects, including, where appropriate, the involvement of the private sector;

6. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations organizations, in accordance with their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to work closely with Governments and the private sector in Africa at the national, regional and international levels to foster industrial production and development;

7. Calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, in accordance with their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to strengthen their coordination with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations agencies and donors with a view to accelerating the implementation and goals of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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26. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to sectoral policy questions

The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996;[17]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development (A/52/428).[18]

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[17] A/52/132-E/1997/57.

[18] A/52/428.

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 97

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part I)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development and international economic cooperation:

"(a) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

"(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

"(c) Population and development;

"(d) International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development;

"(e) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

"(f) First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty;

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/628 and addenda.

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"(g) Women in development;

"(h) Human resources development;

"(i) Cultural development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a general discussion on the item at its 14th, 18th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, 26th, 27th, 38th and 39th meetings, on 22, 27, 30 and 31 October and on 3 and 12 November. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.14, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27, 38 and 39). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.2/52/SR.3-9). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be given in addenda to the present report, as follows:

Sub-item	Addendum
(a)	1
(b)	2
(c)	3
(d)	4
(e)	5
(f)	6
(g)	7
(h)	8
(i)	9

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 97. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

(a) Letter dated 14 March 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/92);

(b) Letter dated 14 March 1997 from the representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/112);

(c) Letter dated 7 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/139);

(d) Letter dated 15 May 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/153-S/1997/384);

(e) Letter dated 29 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/163);

(f) Letter dated 26 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/217-S/1997/507);

(g) Letter dated 12 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/284);

(h) Letter dated 29 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/318);

(i) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/447-S/1997/775);

(j) Letter dated 13 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/460);

(k) Letter dated 22 October 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/514-S/1997/815);

Item 97 (a). Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/52/425);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

(c) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations transmitting the Communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly (A/52/447-E/1997/775);

(d) Letter dated 2 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Medellín Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted by the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (A/52/432);

(e) Letter dated 2 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Okinawa Conference on Development (A/52/436);

(f) Letter dated 13 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nation addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-first annual meeting (A/52/460);

(g) Letter dated 17 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/52/9);

(h) Letter dated 18 November 1997 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee (A/C.2/52/10);

Item 97 (b). Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s (A/52/279);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

(c) Letter dated 2 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/52/3);

Item 97 (c). Population and development

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on population and development (A/52/208);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the process and modalities for the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (A/52/208/Add.1);

Item 97 (d). International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development (A/52/314);

Item 97 (e). Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

(a) Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its sixteenth session (A/52/8 and Add.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/52/181-E/1997/77);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/52/539);

(d) Letter dated 7 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/136);

Item 97 (f). First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (A/52/573);

(b) Report on the World Social Situation, 1997 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.1997.IV.1);

(c) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

Item 97 (g). Women in development

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the advancement of women (A/52/300);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on women in development (A/52/345);

(c) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

Item 97 (h). Human resources development

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/105 (A/52/540);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

Item 97 (i). Cultural development

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development (A/52/382);

(b) Letter dated 23 September 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum (A/52/413);

4. At the 14th meeting, on 22 October, an introductory statement on sub-item (i) was made by the Coordinator and Chief of the World Decade for Cultural Development of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (see A/C.2/52/SR.14).

5. At the 18th meeting, on 27 October, introductory statements on sub-items (a) and (b) were made by the Officer-in-Charge of the Division of Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Officer-in-Charge of the New York Office of UNCTAD (see A/C.2/52/SR.18).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 30 October, introductory statements on sub-items (c) and (d) were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and by the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (see A/C.2/52/SR.23).

7. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, an introductory statement on sub-item (e) was made by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (see A/C.2/52/SR.26).

8. At the 27th meeting, on 3 November, introductory statements on sub-items (g) and (h) were made by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and by the Principal Officer of the Social Development and Poverty Elimination Division of UNDP (see A/C.2/52/SR.27).

9. At the 38th meeting, on 12 November, an introductory statement on sub-item (f) was made by the Director of the Social Policy and Development Division of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (see A/C.2/52/SR.38).

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: RENEWAL OF THE DIALOGUE OF STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

Report of the Second Committee (Part II)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 26th and 50th meetings, on 31 October and 9 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.26 and 50).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.11 AND L.11/Rev.1

2. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/52/L.11).

3. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania orally corrected it as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

(a) Operative paragraph 3 should read: "Requests the President of the General Assembly, bearing in mind resolution 51/174, to start consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the modalities, focus of the discussions and timing - including at a time shortly before the fifty-third session of the General Assembly - of the first two-day high-level dialogue on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, to be held during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly";

(b) Operative paragraph 4 should read: "Invites Member States to provide inputs on the high-level dialogue and on the modalities and themes for such future high-level dialogues".

The draft resolution as corrected read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995 and 51/174 of 16 December 1996,

"Noting the adoption of the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provision on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to effectively follow up on the Agenda,

"Noting also the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership',[2]

"1. Reaffirms the continued need to strengthen constructive dialogue and genuine partnership in order to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

"2. Also reaffirms that such a dialogue should be conducted in response to the imperatives of mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development and for improving the international economic environment that is conducive to such development, and that the United Nations system should play a central role in strengthening such a dialogue;

"3. Requests the President of the General Assembly, bearing in mind resolution 51/174, to start consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the modalities, focus of the discussions and

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[1] See resolution 51/240.

[2] A/52/425.

timing - including at a time shortly before the fifty-third session of the General Assembly - of the first two-day high-level dialogue on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, to be held during the fifty-third session of the General Assembly;

"4. Invites Member States to provide inputs on the high-level dialogue and on the modalities and themes for future high-level dialogues;

"5. Further requests the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant intergovernmental organizations and other development actors, to make initial preparations for such a dialogue;

"6. Encourages all Member States to participate in the high-level dialogue;

"7. Recognizes the need to work out modalities and themes for future high-level dialogues, building on the experience of the first high-level dialogue;

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item/sub-item entitled 'Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership'."

4. At the 50th meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11.

5. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria) made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of United States of America, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union), Canada, the Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) (see A/C.2/52/SR.50). The representative of the United States requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 151 to 2 (see para. 9). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran

(Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union), Indonesia, China, Canada and Australia (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

8. The Chairman of the Committee made a statement in response to the letter dated 18 November 1997 of the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Second Committee (A/C.2/52/10).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995 and 51/174 of 16 December 1996,

Noting the adoption of the Agenda for Development[3] and the relevant provision on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to

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[3] See resolution 51/240.

international economic cooperation for development so as to effectively follow up on the Agenda,

Noting also the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sustainable Development and International Economic Cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership",[4]

1. Reaffirms the continued need to strengthen constructive dialogue and genuine partnership in order to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

2. Also reaffirms that such a dialogue should be conducted in response to the imperatives of mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as for improving the international economic environment that is conducive to such development, and that the United Nations system should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue;

3. Requests the President of the General Assembly to start consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the modalities, focus of the discussion and timing of the two-day high-level dialogue on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, to be held at an appropriate time conducive to maintaining the entity and character of the two-day high-level dialogue;

4. Invites Governments to contribute views to the high-level dialogue, including its preparation, and encourages them to participate in the dialogue;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant intergovernmental organizations and other development actors, to initiate preparations for such a dialogue;

6. Recognizes the need to work out modalities and themes for following high-level dialogues, building on the experience of the high-level dialogue and, in this context, invites Member States to provide inputs to this process;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session under the appropriate item, the sub-item entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership".

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[4] A/52/425.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990s

Report of the Second Committee (Part III)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 26th and 48th meetings, on 31 October and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.26 and 48).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.12 AND L.38

2. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/52/L.12), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990 in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review,

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

"Recalling also its resolution 50/103 of 20 December 1995, in which it recalled that at the end of the decade, a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action would be carried out, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and paragraph 7 (c) of its resolution 45/206,

"Taking note of The Least Developed Countries: Report, 1997, prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[1] and of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action,[2] which highlights the main developmental difficulties the least developed countries continue to face,

"Also taking note, with appreciation, of the strenuous and wide-ranging policy reforms undertaken by the least developed countries, which have been implemented under very difficult conditions and at considerable cost and hardship to society,

"Expressing serious concern that the least developed countries as a group continue to be marginalized in the process of globalization and liberalization and that they have not been able to achieve many of the objectives of the Programme of Action,

"Noting with grave concern the negative trend in the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, their continued serious debt burden, declining share in international trade, and marginalization in world investment flows,

"Taking note of the outcome of the Trade and Development Board at its forty-fourth session relating to the annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action, including its agreed conclusions and its recommendation to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the convening of a third United Nations conference on the least developed countries and its preparatory process,

"1. Decides:

"(a) To convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2000. The mandate of the Conference will be the following:

"(i) To assess the results of the Programme of Action during the 1990s at the country level;

"(ii) To review implementation of international support measures, particularly in the areas of official development assistance, debt, investment and trade;

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[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.6.

[2] A/52/279.

"(iii) To consider the formulation and adoption of appropriate national and international policies and measures for sustainable development of the least developed countries and their progressive integration into the world economy;

"(b) To convene an intergovernmental preparatory committee by early 2000 to prepare for the Conference. That meeting would be preceded by three expert-level preparatory meetings, two in Africa, one of which would include the Americas, and one in Asia and the Pacific;

"2. Decides also that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be the focal point for the preparation of the Conference;

"3. Calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations are made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the above-mentioned preparatory meetings;

"4. Requests all concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and other relevant international and multilateral institutions, to make, within their respective fields of competence, substantive contributions and proposals for further action as submissions to the preparatory process of the Conference;

"5. Encourages non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society and the private sector to contribute to the preparatory process of the Conference;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the ongoing coordinated follow-up to recent major global conferences contribute effectively to the preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, taking into consideration the actions recommended in favour of the least developed countries in the outcome of those conferences;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to include in future issues of the annual report on the least developed countries substantive contributions to the Conference and its preparatory process;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure mobilization of the necessary resources for the participation of at least two representatives from each of the least developed countries, both at the preparatory committee meetings and at the Conference itself, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-third session;

"9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries";

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session a progress report on the state of preparation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

3. At the 48th meeting, on 5 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/52/L.38), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.12.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary made a statement in connection with the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.2/52/SR.48).

5. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.48).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.38 (see para. 9).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States (see A/C.2/52/SR.48).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.38, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.12 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990 in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s[3] and its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review,

Recalling also its resolution 50/103 of 20 December 1995, in which it recalled that at the end of the decade, a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action would be carried out, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and paragraph 7 (c) of its resolution 45/206,

Taking note of The Least Developed Countries: Report, 1997, prepared by

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[3] See A/CONF.147/Misc.9.

the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[4] and of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action,[5] which highlights the main developmental difficulties the least developed countries continue to face,

Also taking note, with appreciation, of the significant policy reform efforts undertaken by the least developed countries, which in many cases have been wide ranging and difficult to implement; that these efforts should be pursued further; and that structural adjustment poses real challenges and resource issues for these countries; and in this context, encourages the international community to support these further reform efforts by the least developed countries including helping to minimize any social cost of adjustments,

Noting with concern the reduced flow of development resources to the least developed countries, the resulting need to accord them priority in the allocation of concessional resources and their continued marginalization in world trade, as well as the facts that many least developed countries face serious debt problems and more than half are considered debt-distressed,

Taking note of the outcome of the Trade and Development Board at its forty-fourth session on the item relating to the annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action, including its agreed conclusions and its recommendation to the General Assembly to consider at its fifty-second session the convening of a third United Nations conference on the least developed countries, its preparatory process, and the designation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point for the preparation of the Conference,

1. Decides:

(a) To convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2001. The mandate of the Conference will be the following:

(i) To assess the results of the Programme of Action during the 1990s at the country level;

(ii) To review implementation of international support measures, particularly in the areas of official development assistance, debt, investment and trade;

(iii) To consider the formulation and adoption of appropriate national and international policies and measures for sustainable development of the least developed countries and their progressive integration into the world economy;

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[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.6.

[5] A/52/279.

(b) To convene an intergovernmental preparatory committee in due time to prepare for the Conference. That meeting would be preceded by three expert-level preparatory meetings, two in Africa, one of which would include the Americas, and one in Asia and the Pacific. These preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1998-1999;

2. Decides also that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be the focal point for the preparation of the Conference;

3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to include in future issues of the annual report on the least developed countries substantive contributions to the Conference and its preparatory process;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" and to consider, inter alia, the date, duration and venue of the Conference, its preparatory process and the funding for participation of representatives from each least developed country, both at the preparatory committee meeting and at the Conference itself, from extrabudgetary resources;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session a report on issues relevant to this item.

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 97 (c)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part IV)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 28th and 49th meetings, on 4 November and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.28 and 49).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.15 AND A/C.2/52/L.43

2. At the 28th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Population and development" (A/C.2/52/L.15), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 50/124 of 20 December 1995 and 51/176 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

"Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/42 of 22 July 1997, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, decide on the process and modalities, including the possibility of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, for reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[1]

"Stressing the need to further pursue the implementation of the Programme of Action and for Governments to recommit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the process and modalities for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[2]

"2. Decides to convene the special session for a duration of one week in June 1999, at the highest possible level of participation, in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"3. Welcomes the decision of the Commission on Population and Development to devote its thirty-first session to addressing substantive issues relating to the review of the Programme of Action;

"4. Decides that the Commission on Population and Development, which is currently scheduled to consider at its thirty-second session a comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, should serve as the preparatory committee for the final preparations for the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action; in this regard, the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General should also contain an overall assessment of the progress achieved and constraints faced in the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as recommendations for future action;

"5. Decides also that the thirty-second session of the Commission shall be open-ended to allow the full participation of all States;

"6. Reaffirms that the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Programme of Action, and that it is not intended to renegotiate the existing agreement contained therein;

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[1] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] A/52/208/Add.1.

"7. Invites Governments to consider undertaking reviews of the progress achieved and the constraints faced therein in the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national and regional levels, with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session;

"8. Invites the United Nations Population Fund and all other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to contribute to the special session as well as to its preparation;

"9. Recognizes the important role played by non-governmental organizations and other organizations of civil society in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and stresses the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a progress report on the preparations for the special session;

"11. Decides to include an item entitled 'Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development' in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session."

3. At the 49th meeting, on 5 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Population and development" (A/C.2/52/L.43), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.15.

4. The Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.43, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/52/L.50).

5. Also at the 49th meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement (A/C.2/52/SR.49).

6. The Committee then adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.43 (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.43, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.15 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Population and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994, 50/124 of 20 December 1995 and 51/176 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/42 of 22 July 1997, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, decide on the process and modalities, including the possibility of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, for reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[3]

Stressing the need to further pursue the implementation of the Programme of Action and for Governments to recommit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives,

Recognizing the important contributions made by actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, to the Conference, its follow-up and the implementation of its Programme of Action,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the process and modalities for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[4]

2. Decides to convene a special session for a duration of three days from 30 June to 2 July 1999, at the highest possible level of participation, in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

3. Reaffirms that the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Programme of Action, and that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements contained therein;

4. Welcomes the operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to be undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations Population Fund, in cooperation with all relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, and notes that the report and outcome of the international forum in 1999 will be submitted to the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-second session and to the Executive

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[3] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] A/52/208/Add.1.

Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund;

5. Decides that the Commission on Population and Development, which is currently scheduled to consider at its thirty-second session a comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, should serve as the preparatory body for the final preparations for the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, reporting through the Economic and Social Council, and in that regard notes that the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General should also contain an overall assessment of the progress achieved and constraints faced in the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as recommendations for future action;

6. Encourages Governments to undertake reviews of the progress achieved and the constraints faced therein in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at all levels, particularly at the national level and at the level of international cooperation, with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session;

7. Invites Governments of developed and developing countries to provide information in order to establish a useful factual basis for the review of the mobilization of resources made available - bilateral, multilateral and domestic - for population and development activities with a view to strengthening the implementation of the Programme of Action;

8. Decides that the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development shall be open-ended to allow the full participation of all States;

9. Invites all other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to contribute as appropriate to the special session as well as to its preparation;

10. Decides to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;

11. Stresses the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in preparation for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the International Conference on Population and Development, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and in that context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a progress report on the preparations for the special session;

13. Decides to include an item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development" in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING THE CONVENING OF A UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part V)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 28th and 46th meetings on 4 November and 2 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.28 and 46).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.14 AND A/C.2/52/L.35

2. At the 28th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development" (A/C.2/52/L.14), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

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"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular chapter X on international migration,[1] and the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[2] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and in the Platform for Action[4] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

"Recalling also its resolutions 50/123 of 20 December 1995 on international migration and development and 49/127 of 19 December 1994, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

"Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council, in the context of its role under the Charter of the United Nations vis-à-vis the General Assembly and in accordance with Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 46/235 of 13 April 1992, 48/162 of 20 December 1994 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, should assist the Assembly in promoting an integrated approach to the implementation of the Programme of Action in providing system-wide coordination and guidance in monitoring the implementation,

"Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities, as entrusted to them in the Charter, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development,

"Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of taking appropriate steps to intensify the analysis of issues involved,

"Noting particularly the lack of migration data, the absence of a coherent theory to explain international migration and the very weak

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[1] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,[5]

"Noting particularly that the role of relevant United Nations organizations that address migration issues should be strengthened so that they can deliver adequate technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

"Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee for Development Planning, and the International Labour Organization,

"Recalling its resolution 51/148 of 13 December 1996 on cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration, in particular its request to the Secretary-General to foster systematic consultations on matters of common interest, in consultation with the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;[6]

"2. Calls upon the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people; to that end, efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

"3. Encourages, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms that will address the question of international migration and development;

"4. Urges Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

"5. Calls upon all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing activities, to address the issue of international migration and development and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

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[5] See E/CN.9/1997/2, para. 11.

[6] A/52/314.

"6. Notes that a technical symposium on international migration will be convened in 1998 and, in that regard, requests the Commission on Population and Development to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the outcome of the symposium;

"7. Requests the Committee for Development Planning to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999, on the results of its examination in 1998 of the issue of migration and development;

"8. Encourages the Administrative Committee on Coordination to report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council on its work in addressing the issue of international migration and development from cross-sectoral, interregional, regional and subregional points of view;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report that takes into account the views of Member States, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labour Organization and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant organizations outside the United Nations system, recommending ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development, including the possibility of convening an international conference on international migration and development;

"10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled 'International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues'."

3. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/52/L.35), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.14. In introducing the draft resolution, the Vice-Chairman orally revised operative paragraph 6 (a) by replacing the words "bearing in mind" with the words "taking into account".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.35, as orally revised (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.35, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.14 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular chapter X on international migration,[7] and the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[8] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[9] and in the Platform for Action[10] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[11] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[12] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[13] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[14]

Aware that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families and that it is desirable to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recalling its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994 and 50/123 of 20 December 1995 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council, in the context of its role under the Charter of the United Nations vis-à-vis the General Assembly and

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[7] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[11] Resolution 217 A (III).

[12] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[13] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[14] Resolution 44/25, annex.

in accordance with Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 46/235 of 13 April 1992, 48/162 of 20 December 1994 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, should assist the Assembly in promoting an integrated approach to the implementation of the Programme of Action in providing system-wide coordination and guidance in monitoring the implementation,

Recalling further that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities, as entrusted to them in the Charter, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development,

Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of taking appropriate steps to intensify the analysis of issues involved,

Noting particularly the need for more migration data, a coherent theory to explain international migration and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,[15]

Noting the role of relevant United Nations organizations in delivering adequate support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Noting also the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development,[16] the Commission on Human Rights,[16] the Committee for Development Planning,[16] the International Labour Organization, and other relevant key organizations,

Taking note of the recent regional and subregional conferences on international migration as an example of a government-driven process of consultation and cooperation to address particular problems associated with international migration,

Noting that a technical symposium on international migration and development will be convened in 1998 by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at the request of the Commission on Population and Development,[16] pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/123,

Recalling its resolution 51/148 of 13 December 1996 on cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration, in particular its request therein to the Secretary-General, in consultation with

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[15] See E/CN.9/1997/2, para. 11.

[16] Recognizing, without prejudice, the Economic and Social Council review of its subsidiary bodies, as initiated under General Assembly resolution 50/227, bearing in mind the other relevant Assembly resolutions.

the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration, to foster systematic consultations on matters of common interest,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;[17]

2. Urges Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. Encourages, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. Calls upon the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people; to that end, efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

5. Calls upon all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to address the issue of international migration and development and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on international migration and development to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account:

(a) The views of Member States, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labour Organization, other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant organizations, taking into account various regional processes, and recommending ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development, including the possibility of convening an international conference on international migration and development;

(b) The report of the technical symposium on international migration and development, which will be convened in 1998;

(c) The report of the Committee for Development Planning[16] on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

(d) The work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination which addresses the issue of international migration and development from cross-sectoral, interregional, regional and subregional points of view;

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[17] A/52/314.

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session a sub-item entitled "International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues".

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II)

Report of the Second Committee (Part VI)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 38th and 49th meetings, on 12 November and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.38 and 49).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.18 and A/C.2/52/L.53

2. At the 38th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/52/L.18), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

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Agenda,[1] which were adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996 at Istanbul,

"Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national, regional and international levels for the implementation of measures designed to address the economic, social and environmental consequences of rapid urbanization,

"Stressing the need to improve conditions of shelter, access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and basic social services in both rural and urban areas,

"Also recalling paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda and operative paragraph 15 of Assembly resolution 51/177 on the need to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of Habitat II,

"Noting with regret that the Secretary-General has not submitted the final comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements with a view to its revitalization, as called for in Assembly resolution 51/177, and stressing that that has prevented Member States from addressing those issues in a timely manner,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its sixteenth session (Nairobi, 28 April-7 May 1997),[2] as well as on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,[3] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);[4]

"2. Welcomes the actions by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements towards the reform of the administrative and financial management of the Centre pursuant to the recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General, as well as the relevant reports of the United Nations Board of Auditors and resolutions 16/8, 16/19, 16/28 and 16/29 of the Commission on Human Settlements;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session the comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization, which was called for in operative paragraph 19 of Assembly resolution 51/177, taking into account resolution 16/8 and other relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixteenth session;

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[1] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8).

[3] A/52/8/Add.1.

[4] A/52/181-E/1997/77.

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to address urgently the serious management and financial situation at the Centre to meet its responsibilities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[1]

"5. Urges all Governments and other actors concerned with human settlements and urban management issues, such as local authorities, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, the private sector, trade unions, academicians and other community groups, to implement fully and effectively the Habitat Agenda;

"6. Affirms that in a rapidly urbanizing world, the pivotal role of local authorities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda should be recognized and enhanced;

"7. Requests all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the Bretton Woods institutions, to support fully the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda at all levels, particularly at the national level;

"8. Stresses that the full and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in particular in all developing countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, will require the mobilization of additional financial resources from various sources at the national and international levels and more effective development cooperation in order to promote assistance for shelter and human settlements activities;

"9. Calls upon the international community, in particular developed countries, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for its follow-up to the Habitat Agenda;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

"11. Decides to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including the identification of obstacles and the consideration of further actions and initiatives, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-fourth session, a report containing recommendations for consideration by the Assembly on the format, scope, organizational and substantive aspects of the special session;

"12. Decides that the eighteenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, in 2001, shall be the preparatory mechanism for the special session of the General Assembly, and shall be open-ended to allow the full participation of all States;

"13. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider dedicating one high-level segment before the year 2001 to human settlements and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and in that context requests the

relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization, to contribute to the preparation of such a high-level segment;

"14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

"15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the sub-item 'Implementation of the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)'."

3. At the 49th meeting, on 5 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.53), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.18.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.49).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.53 (see para. 9, draft resolution I).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.18 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions contained in Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 16/1 and 16/2

7. At the 49th meeting, on 5 December, the Committee had before it Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 16/1, entitled "Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000", and 16/2, entitled "Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements", which contained draft resolutions recommended for adoption by the General Assembly.[5]

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolutions contained in Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 16/1 and 16/2 (see para. 9, draft resolutions II and III).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

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[5] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8), annex I, sect. A.1.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[6] and the Habitat Agenda,[7] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul, on 14 June 1996,

Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national, regional and international levels for the implementation of measures designed to address the economic, social and environmental consequences of rapid urbanization,

Stressing the need to improve conditions of shelter, access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and basic social services in both rural and urban areas,

Recalling paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda, in which the Conference requested the General Assembly to consider holding a special session in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of Habitat II, and paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 51/177, in which the Assembly requested that a decision on the matter be taken at its fifty-second session,

Noting the delay in the submission of the report of the Secretary-General on the final comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements with a view to its revitalization, as called for in paragraph 19 of Assembly resolution 51/177, and stressing that that has constrained consideration by the Assembly of those issues,

Recalling its resolution 51/225 of 3 April 1997, and noting with concern the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[8] in which serious concern is expressed about the financial irregularities in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, and recognizing that the serious management and financial situation at the Centre should be addressed as a matter of urgency,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Commission on Human Settlements on its sixteenth session[9] and on the implementation of the Global Strategy for

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[6] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[7] Ibid., annex II.

[8] A/52/339, annex.

[9] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8).

Shelter to the Year 2000,[10] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);[11]

2. Requests the Secretary-General to address urgently the serious management and financial situation at the Centre to meet its responsibilities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[7] in accordance with Commission on Human Settlements resolution 16/8;[12]

3. Urges the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to take further action towards the reform of the administrative and financial management of the Centre pursuant to the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[8] as well as the relevant reports of the United Nations Board of Auditors and Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 16/8, 16/19, 16/28 and 16/29;[12]

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session the comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization called for in paragraph 19 of Assembly resolution 51/177, taking into account Commission resolution 16/8 and other relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixteenth session;

5. Urges all Governments and other actors concerned with human settlements and urban management issues, such as local authorities, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, the private sector, trade unions, academicians and other community groups, to implement fully and effectively the Habitat Agenda;

6. Invites Governments to consider, where appropriate, including in their delegations to future sessions of the Commission, in accordance with the specific conditions of each country, representatives of local authorities and the relevant actors of civil society, particularly the private sector, non-governmental organizations and research organizations, in the field of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;

7. Affirms that in a rapidly urbanizing world, the pivotal role of local authorities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda should be recognized and enhanced;

8. Requests all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to support fully the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda at all levels, to enhance their cooperation for that purpose with a view to promoting

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[10] A/52/8/Add.1.

[11] A/52/181-E/1997/77.

[12] See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8), annex I, sect. A.2.

integrated, interrelated and coherent implementation of and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences;

9. Stresses that the full and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in particular in all developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, will require mobilization of additional financial resources from various sources at the national and international levels and more effective development cooperation in support of national efforts in order to promote assistance for shelter and human settlements activities;

10. Invites all Governments and the international community to consider providing further support to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in its activities, taking into account the need to continue to improve its effectiveness;

11. Invites the Commission on Human Settlements to promote the use of a set of key indicators to be further developed by the Centre and used by Governments, as appropriate, for national and local monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

12. Decides to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the modalities of which will be decided on at its fifty-third session;

13. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider devoting one high-level segment before the year 2001 to human settlements and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988, in which it adopted the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 and designated the Commission on Human Settlements as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating, evaluating and monitoring the Strategy, and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as the lead agency for the Strategy,

Noting that the conclusions of the mid-term review of the Strategy, conducted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), were incorporated into the Habitat Agenda,[13]

Having considered the fifth report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,[14]

Noting with satisfaction the support given to the implementation of the Global Strategy by donor Governments, international bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. Commends Governments that are already revising, consolidating, formulating or implementing their national shelter strategies based on the enabling principles of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, as elaborated in the Habitat Agenda;[13]

2. Urges Governments, in connection with the implementation of their national plans of action on human settlements, to adopt and/or strengthen integrated national shelter strategies based on the enabling approach and sustainable development;

3. Also urges Governments to integrate fully the environmental dimension in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies, taking into account the relevant components of Agenda 21;[15]

4. Recommends that Governments extend the application of urban and housing indicators to cities and rural settlements for monitoring the progress of their national shelter strategy and the performance of the shelter sector, taking into account local conditions and sensitivity to gender considerations;

5. Urges the international community to strengthen its support for national efforts to formulate and implement enabling shelter strategies in developing countries, as recommended in Agenda 21;

6. Urges the organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, and other multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide, on the basis of an approach consistent with the Global Strategy, increased financial and other support to Governments for achieving the objective of adequate shelter for all;

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[13] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[14] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8/Add.1).

[15] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

7. Adopts the Plan of Action for the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 for the biennium 1998-1999,[16] and urges Governments, relevant United Nations and private sector organizations, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prepare and implement their specific plans of action;

8. Decides to subsume the sixth report of the Commission on Human Settlements to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, as called for in Assembly resolution 43/181, into the report of the Secretary-General to the Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, to be submitted pursuant to Assembly resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[17]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, and in particular its resolution 32/162 (XXXI) of 19 December 1977, by which it decided that the Economic and Social Council should transform the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning into the Commission on Human Settlements,

Taking into account its resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), and 50/227 of 24 May 1996 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling that in its resolution 51/177, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions, including Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227, and together with the Commission on Human Settlements, should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of activities for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[18]

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[16] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8/Add.1), annex.

[17] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1.

[18] Ibid., annex II.

Convinced that the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) will be undertaken on the basis of an integrated approach to human settlements development and within the framework of coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the results of the major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

I

Framework for the functioning of the Commission

1. Reaffirms that the Commission on Human Settlements, as a standing committee of the Economic and Social Council, should have a central role in monitoring, within the United Nations system, the implementation of the Habitat Agenda[18] and advising the Council thereon;

2. Calls upon all the relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, to identify specific actions that they will undertake, within their mandates, towards the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and invites them to inform the Administrative Committee on Coordination of their actions;

3. Calls upon the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions, consistent with their respective mandates, to support fully the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, particularly at the field level, as appropriate;

4. Invites the Bretton Woods institutions to consider how they might be actively involved in the implementation of and follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), and to enhance their cooperation with the United Nations system for that purpose;

5. Decides, in view of the importance of non-governmental organizations, local authorities, the private sector and research organizations in the promotion of human settlements development, that such organizations should be encouraged to participate in the work of the Commission, in accordance with the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 on the consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations;

II

Terms of reference

6. Reaffirms the existing mandate of the Commission on Human Settlements as set out in General Assembly resolution 32/162 (XXXI) of 19 December 1977, while stressing the normative and catalytic character of the mandate;

7. Reaffirms in particular the responsibility of the Commission to give overall policy guidance to and to supervise the operations of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, including the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

8. Takes into account that the Commission should fulfil its mandate in line with paragraphs 222 to 227 of the Habitat Agenda and in harmony with recommendations made by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly chapter 7 of Agenda 21;[19]

9. Decides that the Commission, in fulfilling its mandate, shall assist the Economic and Social Council in monitoring, reviewing and assessing the progress made in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, inter alia, through the analysis of relevant inputs from Governments, local authorities and their associations, relevant non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

10. Also decides that the Commission shall identify issues concerning which system-wide coordination needs to be improved and modalities for promoting system-wide coordination in order to assist the Council in its coordination function;

III

Structure of the agenda and work programme of the Commission

11. Urges the Commission to adopt a multi-year work programme for a focused and thematic approach that would, inter alia, provide a framework to assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and that would be in line with the coordinated follow-up to conferences, culminating in an overall review and appraisal of the Habitat Agenda in the year 2001;

12. Decides that the work of the Commission in relation to the programme of work shall be primarily focused on the relevant provisions of the Habitat Agenda with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

13. Also decides that the agenda of the Commission on Human Settlements at its future sessions shall include the following substantive items derived from the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II):

(a) Consideration of issues identified in the multi-year programme of work;

(b) Review of the relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the themes "Sustainable human settlements development" and "Adequate shelter for all";

(c) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting human settlements development;

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[19] See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1997, vol. I, Resolution Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

14. Further decides that at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, which will be structured around the following four substantive areas of the Habitat Agenda, the Commission will focus on monitoring the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and assessing its impact:

(a) Adequate shelter for all, also incorporating the monitoring of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;

(b) Sustainable human settlements in an urbanizing world, also incorporating the monitoring of chapter 7 of Agenda 21;

(c) Capacity-building and institutional development;

(d) International cooperation and coordination;

15. Decides that:

(a) At its seventeenth session, in 1999, the Commission will address the above-mentioned substantive areas;

(b) At its eighteenth session, in 2001, the Commission will focus on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly, if appropriate;

(c) In 1998 and 2000, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements will analyse the progress made on national implementation status, organized around the four above-mentioned substantive areas, and will prepare synthesized reports to be submitted for consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions;

IV

Documentation

16. Requests that all United Nations documentation be kept concise, clear, analytical and timely, with a focus on relevant issues, that to the greatest extent possible use be made of integrated reporting, that reports contain recommendations for action and indicate the actors involved, that reports be made available in all official languages in accordance with the rules of the United Nations, and that the use of other methods of reporting, such as oral reports, also be explored;

V

Methods of work of the Commission

17. Recognizes that the methods of work of the Commission should be revitalized in order to improve the profile of the Commission and attract high-level political participation;

18. Decides that preparation of thematic discussions in the Commission should be broadened by:

(a) Inviting countries to contribute to the preparation of the sessions by, for example, organizing seminars or expert panels on issues directly related to the themes that will be discussed at a particular session, and to report thereon;

(b) Involving local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other partners in the preparatory phases of Commission sessions;

19. Also decides that during Commission sessions, dialogues with major groups and panel discussions may be organized, the format of which, as with all other agenda items, should be decided upon at preceding Commission sessions;

20. Further decides to consider organizing interactive high-level segments on key policy issues during future Commission sessions;

VI

Secretariat

21. Urges the Secretary-General to ensure the effective functioning of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in line with paragraph 232 of the Habitat Agenda so as to enable it to discharge its mandate fully and to serve as an efficient secretariat to the Commission, and also to ensure that clear lines of responsibility are drawn so as to facilitate the implementation of the follow-up to Habitat II and secure close cooperation at the secretariat level among all United Nations entities involved in the follow-up;

22. Requests the Executive Director of the Centre to submit to the Commission on Human Settlements at future sessions a detailed report on the activities of regional offices, paying special attention to the status of implementation of the work programmes elaborated for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda in each region.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: FIRST UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY

Report of the Second Committee (Part VII)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (f) was taken at the 43rd, 44th, 46th and 48th meetings, on 19 and 20 November and 2 and 5 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.43, 44, 46 and 48).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.30 and A/C.2/52/L.34

2. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.30) entitled "First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty", which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 49/110 of 19 December 1994, 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 51/178 of 16 December 1996, related to the observance of the International Year for

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

the Eradication of Poverty (1996), and in which it proclaims the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, and all its other relevant resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

"Recalling also all declarations and programmes of action of the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 and the reports and publications on the outcomes of those conferences and summits as they relate to poverty eradication,

"Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the Nineteenth Special Session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[1] the Report on the World Social Situation, 1997,[2] the Human Development Report, 1997[3] and the Trade and Development Report, 1997,[4]

"Expressing its concern that, as underlined in the reports mentioned above, the number of people living in absolute poverty is still increasing, especially in developing countries, and that a majority of them are women,

"Noting decisions, measures and activities undertaken to eradicate poverty by countries and by organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, and by non-governmental organizations and the entire civil society within the framework of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the first year of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

"1. Reiterates that the main objective of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation in implementing fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments agreed upon at the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to poverty eradication;

"2. Reaffirms that the causes of poverty should be addressed in the context of sectoral strategies, such as those on environment, food security, population, migration, health, shelter, human resources development, fresh water, including clean water and sanitation, rural development and productive employment, and of the specific needs of

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[1] A/S-19/29.

[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.1.

[3] New York, Oxford University Press, 1997.

[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.8.

disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to aim at the social and economic integration of people living in poverty;

"3. Reaffirms also that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty, to the national and international framework conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, to the promotion of an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective and to the utilization of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into the planning and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes on poverty eradication;

"4. Emphasizes that, in developing countries, rural development remains central to poverty eradication efforts, and this often includes agrarian reform, investment in infrastructure, extension of rural financial intermediation ensuring food security, better education and greater utilization of appropriate technology, ensuring fair prices to provide incentives for agricultural investment, and increasing productivity, including productivity in the informal sector;

"5. Emphasizes also the need to pursue efforts to eradicate poverty in the urban areas in all countries;

"6. Decides that every year the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October) should be marked by concentrating on the themes that the General Assembly chooses for that year;

"7. Reiterates that all Governments shall formulate or strengthen integrated poverty eradication strategies and policies and implement national poverty eradication plans or programmes in a participatory manner, so as to address the structural causes of poverty, encompassing action on the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels;

"8. Reaffirms, that developed countries should, as soon as possible, strive for the fulfilment of the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target, earmark 0.15-0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries;

"9. Expresses concern that the debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries continue to impede efforts to eradicate poverty and, in this context, notes that the initiative on the heavily indebted poor countries is valuable but, even when fully operational, will leave untouched much of the debt of severely indebted low-income countries, and calls upon the international community, including multilateral financial institutions, to take further major initiatives on debt cancellation and/or alleviation and to implement fully and effectively all initiatives taken that will contribute to a durable solution of the debt problems of developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, and thus support their efforts to eradicate poverty;

"10. Takes note of the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Microcredit Summit held in Washington, D.C., in February 1997,[5] and calls upon all Governments, the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the relevant non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society, to contribute fully to the implementation of the outcome of that Summit and to support the development, management and assessment of microcredit programmes in developing countries, particularly in African countries and the least developed countries;

"11. Invites the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to extend projects under the rubric 'poverty strategies initiative' to all developing countries in order to make the initiative closely geared to the poverty eradication goals of the commitments adopted at the World Summit for Social Development[6] and to strengthen assistance in the elaboration of national plans, programmes and strategies to eradicate poverty, particularly in African countries and the least developed countries;

"12. Calls upon all donors to give high priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance budgets and programmes, on either a bilateral or multilateral basis, and also invites the relevant funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support developing countries, particularly African countries and the least developed countries, in their efforts to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty and ensuring basic social services, by supporting national efforts to formulate, coordinate, implement, monitor and assess integrated poverty strategies, including capacity-building, and by supporting efforts to empower people living in poverty;

"13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-third session on progress made in the implementation of measures, themes, recommendations and activities related to the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including recommendations for possible actions and initiatives for the rest of the Decade;

"14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled 'Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)'."

3. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced and orally corrected a draft resolution entitled "First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty" (A/C.2/52/L.34), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.30.

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[5] A/52/113, annex.

[6] See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.C.

4. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.46).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.34, as orally corrected (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.34, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.27 and A/C.2/52/L.27/Rev.1

7. At the 44th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Bangladesh, on behalf of Cape Verde and Peru, as well as Canada, Chile, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Samoa, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Uganda and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty" (A/C.2/52/L.27), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996) and recommendations for the rest of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,[1]

"Recognizing that people living in poverty are innately capable of working their way out of poverty with dignity, and can demonstrate creative potentials to improve their situation when an enabling environment and the right opportunities exist,

"Noting that in many countries of the world, microcredit programmes, by providing access to small capitals to people living in poverty, have succeeded in generating productive self-employment,

"Also noting that microcredit programmes have proved to be an effective tool in freeing people from the bondage of poverty, and have led to their increasing participation in the mainstream economic and political processes of society,

"Bearing in mind that microcredit programmes have especially benefited women and have resulted in the achievement of their empowerment in a world where more women than men live in absolute poverty and that imbalance continues to grow,

"Recognizing that microcredit programmes, in addition to their role in the eradication of poverty, have also contributed to the social and human development process,

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[1] A/52/573.

"1. Welcomes the outcome of the Microcredit Summit, held at Washington, D.C., from 2 to 4 February 1997, which through its Declaration and Plan of Action,[8] launched a global movement to reach 100 million of the world's poorest families, especially women of those families, with credit for self-employment and other financial and business services, by the year 2005;

"2. Notes with satisfaction that, as called for in Assembly resolution 51/178 of 16 December 1996, many United Nations agencies and the World Bank have actively participated in the Summit and thus contributed to its successful outcome;

"3. Takes note of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Microcredit Summit,[8] the communiqué[9] issued by the Council of Heads of State and Government at the Summit, and messages to the Summit from the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China[10] and the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[11]

"4. Encourages all involved in poverty eradication programmes to consider incorporating microcredit schemes in their strategies;

"5. Also encourages them to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions so that credit may be made available to increasing numbers of people living in poverty;

"6. Calls on the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and the regional commissions, as well as international and regional financial institutions and donor agencies involved in the eradication of poverty, to explore including the microcredit approach in their programmes as a tool for the eradication of poverty;

"7. Calls on all concerned non-governmental organizations, other actors of civil society and the private sector to support and incorporate, as appropriate, microcredit schemes in their programmes for the eradication of poverty;

"8. Takes note of the positive references in support of the role of microcredit contained in the final documents of the Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement (New Delhi, 4-8 April 1997), the Ninth South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Summit (Male, 12-14 May 1997), the Organization of African Unity Summit (Harare, 2-4 June 1997), the substantive session of 1997 of the Economic and Social

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[8] A/52/113, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Ibid., annex III.

[11] Ibid., annex IV.

Council (Geneva, 30 June-25 July 1997) and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Edinburgh, 24-27 October 1997)."

8. At the 48th meeting, on 5 December, the representative of Bangladesh, also on behalf of Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Malawi, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uganda and the United States of America, introduced and orally corrected a revised draft resolution entitled "Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty" (A/C.2/52/L.27/Rev.1).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.27/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 49/110 of 19 December 1994, 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 51/178 of 16 December 1996, related to the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996), and to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), and all its other relevant resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Recalling also all declarations and programmes of action of the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 and the reports and publications on the outcomes of those conferences and summits as they relate to poverty eradication,

Taking note of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[12]

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[12] See resolution S-19/1.

the Report on the World Social Situation, 1997,[13] the Human Development Report, 1997[14] and the Trade and Development Report, 1997,[15]

Expressing its concern that, as underlined in the reports mentioned above, the number of people living in absolute poverty is still increasing, especially in developing countries, and that a majority of them are women,

Noting decisions, measures and activities undertaken to eradicate poverty by countries and by organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, as well as by non-governmental organizations and the entire civil society within the framework of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the first year of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

1. Reiterates that the main objective of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation in implementing fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments agreed upon at the United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to poverty eradication;

2. Reaffirms that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty, to the national and international framework conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, which should aim at the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, and to the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development;

3. Reaffirms also that the causes of poverty should be addressed in the context of sectoral strategies, such as those on environment, food security, population, migration, health, shelter, human resources development, including education, fresh water, including clean water and sanitation, rural development and productive employment, and of the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices of people living in poverty and enable them to build their strengths and assets so as to reach social and economic integration;

4. Reaffirms further that all Governments and the United Nations system, in particular the relevant funds, programmes and agencies, should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective and use gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into the planning and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes on poverty eradication;

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[13] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.1.

[14] New York, Oxford University Press, 1997.

[15] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.8.

5. Emphasizes that, in developing countries, rural development remains central to poverty eradication efforts, and this often includes agrarian reform, investment in infrastructure, extension of rural financial intermediation ensuring food security, better education and greater utilization of appropriate technology, ensuring fair prices to provide incentives for agricultural investment, and increasing productivity, including productivity in the informal sector;

6. Emphasizes also that in all countries, urban poverty should be addressed, inter alia, by promoting sustainable livelihoods for people living in urban poverty through the provision or expansion of access to training, education and other employment assistance services, in particular for women, youth, the unemployed and the underemployed;

7. Decides that every year the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October) should be marked by concentrating on the themes that the General Assembly chooses for that year;

8. Renews its recommendation that all Governments formulate or strengthen integrated poverty eradication strategies and policies and implement national poverty eradication plans or programmes in a participatory manner, to address the structural causes of poverty, encompassing action at local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, and stresses that those plans or programmes should establish, within each national context, strategies and affordable time-bound goals and targets for the substantial reduction of overall poverty and the eradication of absolute poverty;

9. Calls upon developed countries to reaffirm the commitments undertaken to fulfil, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall development assistance and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of the gross national product for the least developed countries;

10. Invites the international community, including multilateral financial institutions, to implement fully and effectively all initiatives taken regarding debt relief for developing countries, including Naples terms and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries' Debt Initiative, and to continue their efforts in this field with a view to contributing to a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, and encourages donors to ensure adequate financing of these mechanisms and/or initiatives, particularly in African countries and the least developed countries, and thus support their efforts to eradicate poverty;

11. Takes note of the various international microfinance initiatives launched in recent years, such as the Microcredit Summit, held in Washington, D.C., in February 1997,[16] and the Consultative Group of Assistance to the Poorest, and invites all Governments, the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, the relevant non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other actors of civil society to focus on the importance of increasing access to microcredit and related financial

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[16] See A/52/113, annex.

services for self-employment and income-generating activities for people living in poverty, in particular women in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, and to support the corresponding programmes and actions;

12. Invites the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund to consider extending projects under the rubric "Poverty Strategies Initiative" to all developing countries in order to make the initiative closely geared to the poverty eradication goals of the commitments adopted at the World Summit for Social Development[1] and to strengthen assistance in the elaboration of national plans, programmes and strategies to eradicate poverty, particularly in African countries and the least developed countries, and calls upon all countries to contribute to the Initiative;

13. Calls upon all donors to give high priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance budgets and programmes, on both bilateral and multilateral bases, and also invites the relevant funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support developing countries, particularly African countries and the least developed countries, in their efforts to achieve the overall goal of eradicating poverty and ensuring basic social services, by supporting national efforts to formulate, coordinate, implement, monitor and assess integrated poverty strategies, including capacity-building, and by supporting efforts to empower people living in poverty;

14. Reaffirms the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and recalls the outcome of the Oslo meeting which reaffirmed that promoting access for all basic social services was essential for sustainable development and should be an integral part of any strategy to overcome poverty;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-third session on progress made in the implementation of measures, themes, recommendations and activities related to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including recommendations for possible actions and initiatives for the rest of the Decade, as well as proposals for a better coordination of actions taken by the United Nations system;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

[1] See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen,

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996) and recommendations for the rest of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),[19]

Recognizing that people living in poverty are innately capable of working their way out of poverty with dignity, and can demonstrate creative potentials to improve their situation when an enabling environment and the right opportunities exist,

Noting that in many countries of the world, microcredit programmes, by providing access to small capitals to people living in poverty, have succeeded in generating productive self-employment,

Also noting that microcredit programmes have proved to be an effective tool in freeing people from the bondage of poverty, and have led to their increasing participation in the mainstream economic and political process of society,

Bearing in mind that microcredit programmes have especially benefited women and have resulted in the achievement of their empowerment in a world where more women than men live in absolute poverty and that the imbalance continues to grow,

Recognizing that microcredit programmes, in addition to their role in the eradication of poverty, have also been a contributing factor to the social and human development process,

Noting that the qualitative and quantitative development of microcredit institutions and their capacity to reach the marginalized groups requires the provision of an enabling environment, including a policy framework for the financial sector, as well as linkages to the formal financial sector,

Bearing in mind the importance of microfinance instruments such as credit, savings and related business services in providing access to capital for people living in poverty,

Noting that the provision of finance to microcredit institutions should be commensurate with their absorptive capacity and that efforts should be made to strengthen and enhance that capacity,

Association for Regional Cooperation Summit (Male, 12-14 May 1997), the Organization of African Unity Summit (Harare, 2-4 June 1997), the substantive session of 1997 of the Economic and Social Council (Geneva, 30 June-25 July 1997) and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Edinburgh, 24-27 October 1997) as well as the Group of Seven statement on economic and financial issues (Denver, Colorado, 21 June 1997),

1. Welcomes the launching of different microcredit initiatives in recent years and acknowledges their important contribution to the eradication of poverty, empowerment of women and social upliftment;

2. Welcomes also the outcome of the Microcredit Summit, held at Washington, D.C., from 2 to 4 February 1997, which through its Declaration and Plan of Action,[19] endorsed a global campaign to reach 100 million of the world's poorest families, especially women of those families, with credit for self-employment and other financial and business services, by the year 2005;

3. Notes with satisfaction that, as called for in Assembly resolution 51/178 of 16 December 1996, many United Nations agencies and the World Bank actively participated in the Summit and thus contributed to its successful outcome;

4. Takes note of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Microcredit Summit,[19] the communiqué[20] issued by the Council of Heads of State and Government at the Summit, and messages to the Summit from the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China[21] and the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[22]

5. Recognizes the important contributions being made by the United Nations system and by the Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest, sponsored by the World Bank, to develop and disseminate best practices among all organizations engaged in the provision of financial services on a sustainable basis to people living in poverty;

6. Encourages all involved in poverty eradication programmes to consider incorporating microcredit schemes in their strategies;

7. Also encourages them to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities so that credit and related services may be made available to increasing numbers of people living in poverty;

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[19] A/52/113, annex I.

8. Calls upon the international donor community to support the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions in the developing countries, especially the least developed and the African countries;

9. Also calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and the regional commissions, as well as relevant international and regional financial institutions and donor agencies involved in the eradication of poverty, to explore including the microcredit approach in their programmes as a tool for the eradication of poverty and further developing, where appropriate, other microfinance instruments;

10. Calls upon all concerned non-governmental organizations, other actors of civil society and the private sector to support and incorporate, as appropriate, microcredit and related services in their programmes for the eradication of poverty;

11. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including funds and programmes and the World Bank, to submit to it at its fifty-third session a report on the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty in the follow-up to resolution 52/___ entitled "First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty";

12. Decides to include future discussions of the role of microcredit under the item entitled "Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".